



SUSTAINABLE CITIES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

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“Green Magic” and Our Sustainable Future

Sometimes in sustainability circles we wish we could simply conjure up environmental solutions from thin air. Cynics might argue that our air is too thin to conjure up anything other than emphysema. Steve Trash, [profiled in the Chicago Tribune this week](#), takes a more enchanted approach to sustainability, injecting some fresh air into the field.

Calling himself an eco-magician, Trash is revolutionizing the field of sustainability education with his dynamic performances. His shows work to translate green messaging into a

palatable format for youth audiences. Click [here](#) or on the video below for a sample of his “Green Magic”.



Trash reminds us of the role of creative environmental initiatives in advancing broad based environmental literacy for future generations. In this vein, I encourage you to

review once again the [Strategic Plan for Environmental Literacy for Illinois](#). This plan was produced through a partnership between the Office of Governor Pat Quinn, Illinois State Board of Education, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Through diligent work and a little “green magic”, I believe we can introduce a green ethos into our education system. In the meantime, I’m going to see if Mr. Trash is accepting applications for eco-magicians.

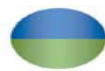


Subscription Information

If you no longer wish to receive Sustainable Cities updates from the Office of the Governor, or wish to add a colleague to this list, please reply to this email. For more information about Governor Pat Quinn’s sustainability initiatives and the Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council, please visit Green.illinois.gov



From Partner Publications:



Chicago Center for Green Technology Releases Winter/Spring 2012 Catalog

The **Chicago Center for Green Technology** serves as the most comprehensive green design educational resource in the Midwest. The center promotes and advances sustainable homes, workplaces and communities to enhance the quality of urban life. CCGT achieves this sustainability mission

through educational programming and training, research and demonstration.

This season CCGT continues to offer an ambitious slate of seminars, workshops, exhibits and other events on site throughout year. Most of these events are free and open to the public. To find an event that fits your interests download the full [Winter](#)

[-Spring 2012 catalog](#) now.

To register for any event visit the [Schedule & Registration](#) page and click on the date or topic of your choice. If you are pursuing a certificate through Green Tech U, and would like to know which seminars apply towards your certificate, you may download the [Semester-at-a-Glance](#) calendar separately.

"The public policy of the State and the duty of each person is to provide and maintain a healthful environment for the benefit of this and future generations."
- Illinois Constitution, Article XI

City of Chicago Sustainability Events

The City of Chicago, through its [Chicago Climate Action Plan](#) is proud to announce the following events...

1/7-1/20

Holiday Tree Recycling

Recycle holiday trees Saturday, January 7 through Friday, January 20.
[View a list of participating sites.](#)

Through 1/31

String Light Recycling

Drop off your old, broken holiday string lights at participating locations during their normal office hours.
[View a list of participating sites.](#)



Web Presents:

Website Now Available for the DCEO Illinois Energy Now Trade Ally Program



The DCEO Illinois Energy Now Trade Ally Program has been created for the benefit of both our Trade Ally partners and their clients, forging connections that can lead to increased energy savings through the DCEO incentives.

Trade Allies are general contractors, lighting contractors, HVAC contractors, engineers, architects, energy service companies, and energy-saving product wholesalers, distributors and retailers who are trained on the program to deliver more energy efficient building solutions to their public sector clients. Since they are fully trained on the portfolio of energy efficiency programs, Trade Allies have a solid understanding of program

**DCEO ILLINOIS ENERGY NOW
TRADE ALLY PROGRAM**

Plug-In Vehicles are Coming to the Chicago Area and...



...has arrived on the Internet

ELPC is proud to launch PlugInChicagoMetro.org, a new online tool to help educate consumers about electric cars available in the Chicagoland area in 2012.

PlugInChicagoMetro.org includes comparative, interactive information about the seven makes/models of plug-in electric cars that are now or soon will be available for purchase in the Chicagoland area, as well as information about electric rates, charging options, tax incentives, and links to resources throughout the Midwest region.

Click on the links above to peruse the site!

Compare the
Electric Vehicles
Available Near You



Overview

Chevy Volt



Mitsubishi i



Nissan Leaf

Curriculum Opportunities



Illinois Wind for Schools

The Illinois Wind for Schools (ILWFS) program offers curriculum development resources, teacher professional development, on-site technical assistance and instructional equipment to Middle School and High School teachers across the state of Illinois to incorporate wind energy topics into the classroom. The ILWFS program addresses Illinois Learning Standards Goals 7 and 10 in Mathematics (Estimation and Measurement; Data Analysis and Probability), and Goals 11, 12 and 13 in Science (Inquiry and Design; Concepts and Principles; Science, Technology and Society)

Through an application process, three to five middle and/or high schools will be selected as ILWFS partner schools for each school year. The ILWFS program includes on-site training workshops at each partner school, curricula and lesson plans, equipment for hands-on activities, basic supplies, and an on-site workshop for all participating teachers. CPDUs will be offered for all ILWFS required teacher training sessions.

Visit ILWFS.org for more information on the program.

Download a fillable application [here](#).



THE GREEN INSTITUTE
at Heartland Community College

WIND SITE ASSESSOR TRAINING

The Green Institute at Heartland Community College is offering a Wind Site Assessor Training course from **March 26th to March 29th, 2012**. This course is recommended for those wishing to begin a career in the wind business, wind system dealers/installers, educators, homeowners considering installing a wind system or anyone interested in further understanding small wind system (<100kW) siting.

Introduction to Wind Systems is a required prerequisite for the Wind Site Assessor Training program

This course provides information about what wind energy is, how it works and what it can do for you. Learn the basics of wind energy such as wind resources, basic system components, system types, turbine types, applications and tower types. Available for 12 CPDUs

For more information and to register call **309-268-8160** or visit <http://www.heartland.edu/greenInstitute/>



"Try blowing on it."

Sustainable Grants

1) Sustain Our Great Lakes Program Invites Applications for Community and Stewardship Programs

Sustain Our Great Lakes is a public-private partnership among ArcelorMittal, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Its mission is to sustain, restore and protect fish, wildlife and habitat in the Great Lakes basin by leveraging funding, building conservation capacity, and focusing partners and resources toward key ecological issues. The program achieves this mission, in part, by awarding grants for in-the-water/on-the-ground habitat restoration and enhancement.

Visit [this link](#) for more information and to apply.



Current Grant Cycle

Preproposal: February 15, 2012
Full Proposal: April 25, 2011
Notification: July 31, 2012

Miscellaneous Events

1) [2012 Chicago Winter Bike Swap](#) — January 21, 2012, 9:30am-3:30pm Harper College, 1200 West Algonquin Road, Palatine, IL

The Chicago Winter Bike Swap an excellent opportunity for bargain hunters and social cycling butterflies to come together for great bargains and community development

2) [Urban Sustain Open House/Re-Launch Celebration](#) January 28th, 2012, 3:00PM-6:00PM Field Office/Training Facility, 1750 East 71st St, Chicago, IL

Urban Sustain is celebrating its commitment to the community and the environment at our new office and training facility! Music, mingling, drawings, food fun and more!!! Please stop by to see the new facility and learn about their vision to equip the next generation with the tools to live in a healthy inner-city environment

3) [Village of Homer Glen Earth Day~Arbor Day](#) May 19th, 2012, All Day The Konow Farm, near 167th St. & Cedar Road.

The Earth Day~Arbor Day Committee is seeking exhibitors and demonstrators to provide education regarding the role that natural resources play in sustaining a high quality of life in the community and to encourage participation in natural resource protection and restoration efforts. Participants that showcase activities which connect children and adults with nature and those that use natural products are highly encouraged.

Green on the Silver Screen

An [EVENING of EVs](#) at the Bloomington Normal Marriott & Normal Theater January 26th, 2012. Come see and learn about what's new and exciting in the world of electric vehicles and stay for the downstate premiere of the film *Revenge of the Electric Car* at 7pm, to be followed by a Q & A with the movie's producer.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 'WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR?'

REVENGE OF THE ELECTRIC CAR

YOU CAN'T KILL AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME.

join us for **An Evening of EVs**
SEE AND LEARN ABOUT ELECTRIC VEHICLES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH

5:30PM - 9:45PM EV SHOWCASE AT THE MARRIOTT BALLROOM
7:00PM - 8:30PM *REVENGE OF THE ELECTRIC CAR* FILM AT THE NORMAL THEATER
8:35PM - 9:15PM PANEL DISCUSSION IN THE THEATER

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL MARRIOTT HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER
210 Broadway St., Normal, IL

NORMAL THEATER
209 North St., Normal, IL

MITSUBISHI "i"
 NISSAN LEAF
 CHEVROLET VOLT
 TESLA ROADSTER
 FISHER KARMA
 1976 VANGUARD CITICAR
 AND MORE!

ENCORE SCREENING OF
REVENGE OF THE ELECTRIC CAR
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27TH AT 7:00PM
www.REVENGEOFTHEELECTRICCAR.com




Green Ribbon Schools



On January 9th, 2012, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) launched the first Illinois Green Ribbon Schools awards program, recognizing schools that are leading the way to promote sustainability and environmental education.

Illinois joins 32 other states participating in the pilot federal Green Ribbon Schools award program to commend the most green and healthy schools in the nation. In Governor announcing the program's extension into Illinois, Governor Quinn credited the collaborative efforts of various agencies including the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Natural Resources, and ISBE.

Applications for nominating Illinois schools can be found on the Illinois Green Ribbon Schools page at http://www.isbe.net/green_ribbon. Illinois will announce its nominees in March. Following the U.S. Department of Education's announcement of winners in April 2012, there will be an award ceremony in Washington, D.C., in late May 2012. The national ceremony will be followed by local ceremonies at each of the winning schools in fall 2012. For more information about the federal Green Ribbon Schools program, visit the [Green Ribbon Schools page](#) of the U.S. Department of Education.

A full press release is available [here](#). Visit [ISBE's site](#) for more information.

Governor Quinn To Unveil Pepsi Dream Machine

On January 25th, at 1pm, Governor Quinn will unveil Pepsi's new Dream Machine in the concourse level of the James H. Thompson

The Dream Machine recycling initiative – created by PepsiCo in collaboration with Waste Management, Keep America Beautiful and Greenopolis – is introducing thousands of recycling kiosks and bins at high-traffic, public locations around the country to help increase the U.S. beverage container recycling rate by giving Americans convenient access to recycling receptacles. In addition to being kind to the environment, each time you recycle in a Dream Machine you are taking action to help support a disabled U.S. veteran – the more bottles and cans people recycle in a Dream Machine, the more support PepsiCo will provide to the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities, a national program offering post-9/11 disabled U.S. veterans free education and experiential training in entrepreneurship and small business management. On top of that, the intelligent kiosks are computerized receptacles that include a personal reward system, operated by Greenopolis, that allows consumers to earn points for every bottle and can they recycle, redeemable for local discounts and coupons on entertainment, dining and travel at greenopolis.com.

Click [here](#) for a map to the event, Visit Pepsi's [Facebook portal](#) for more information





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This resource is provided by the Office of Governor Quinn to Illinois elected officials, municipalities, counties, organizations, and individuals interested in supporting sustainability efforts in their communities. For more information on sustainability resources, please visit our website, www.green.illinois.gov.

If you would like to submit an item to be included in the newsletter

please email

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Find us on Facebook



Governor Pat Quinn honors state agencies and public institutions at the 2011 GGCC Green Governments Awards ceremony on December 17th, 2011 at the Executive Mansion in Springfield.